

NEPAL CORONATION.

Katmandu, forbidden city of Nepal on the Himalayan slopes, is opened to the world for the coronation of 360year old King Mahendra and Queen Lakshmi Devi, in the temple of the monkey god.

The Earl of Scarborough, sits next to Chinese Deputy Premier Ulan Fu. Guests from as far away as Iceland have come to watch the crowning of the only Hindu King in the world. The moment of crowning is 10.43.a.m. exactly, chosen by the royal astrologers as the most auspicious for a peaceful and prosperous reign. Outside the temple, richly apperelled elephants wait for the royal procession through the streets of Katmandu.

By tradition, the King of Nepal should be crowned with two Queens, one on each side; for all the feudal magnificence of Nepal, King Mahendra has 20th century ideas. He is the first of his ancient dynasty to refuse to marry twice. And he is the first to admit the world to his mountain kingdom - until now, one of the most mysterious countries of the Orient.